(under one year) of India is 63 per thousand live births and 30 per thousand live births in respect of China and maternal mortality rate for India is 540 per 100000 live births and 50 per 100000 live births in respect of China. The report is available at website of UNICEF.

(b) As per report referred in (a) above the percentage of infants with low birth weight in India is 30 and 6 in respect of China.

(c) and (d) The infant mortality rate has been reduced from 84 per thousand live births in 1992-93 (NFHS-I) to 68 per thousand live births in 1998-99 (NFHS-II) and maternal mortality rate has been reduced from 437 per 100000 live births in 1992-93 (NFHS-I) to 407 per 100000 live births in 1998 (SRS 1998). The percentage of underweight children has been reduced from 53.4 in 1992-93 (NFHS-I) to 47 in 1998-99 (NFHS-II). Efforts are beind made by the government to improve the overall status of children in the country through several interventions in the field of health, nutrition, education, water and sanitation, protection from exploitation etc.

Private Universities

†3293. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private universities operating in the country;

(b) whether UGC provisions are applicable on such universities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) As on the 31st March, 2005, seven private universities have been established by different State Legislatures in terms of Section 2 (f) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956.

(b) and (c) The incorporation, regulations and winding up of universities in within the competence of the State Legislatures. However, in order to maintain standards of higher education, the UGC (Establishment of Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003, were issued on 27th December, 2003 and are in force.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.